

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

1100 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W., SUITE 600
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3934

www.skgf.com

PHONE: (202) 371-2600 FACSIMILE: (202) 371-2540

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GRANT E. REED
VINCENT L. CAPUANO
JOHN A. HARROUN*
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NATHAN K. KELLEY*
ALBERT J. FASULO II*
W. BRIAN EDGE*

KAREN R. MARKOWICZ
SUZANNE E. ZISKA**
BRIAN J. DEL BUONO**
ANDREA J. KAMAGE**
NANCY J. LEITH**
TARJA H. NAUKKARINEN**

*BAR OTHER THAN D.C.
**REGISTERED PATENT AGENTS

September 7, 2000

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:
(202) 789-5511

INTERNET ADDRESS:
HKRAUS@SKGF.COM

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Art Unit 1632

Via Hand Carry to
Examiner Beckerleg
Crystal Mall 1
7th Floor

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 08/896,053; Filed: July 17, 1997
For: **Method of Inducing Vasodilation and Treating Pulmonary
Hypertension Using Adenoviral-Mediated Transfer of the Nitric
Oxide Synthase Gene**
Inventors: JANSSENS *et al.*
Our Ref: 0609.4280001/JAG/RCM/HLK

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.132 with 1 appendix;
2. Preliminary Amendment;
3. Third Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (*in duplicate*);
4. Form PTO-1449 (16 sheets, citing 44 documents);
5. Forty-Four cited documents (AT28, AR29, AS29, AT29, AR30, AS30, AT30, AR31, AS31, AT31, AR32, AS32, AT32, AR33, AS33, AT33, AR34, AS34, AT34, AR35, AS35, AT35, AR36, AS36, AT36, AR37, AS37, AT37, AR38, AS38, AT38, AR39, AS39, AT39, AR40, AS40, AT40, AR41, AS41, AT41, AR42, AS42, AT42, AR43); and
6. One (1) return postcard.

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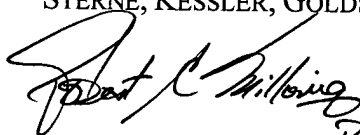
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It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.


for Heidi L. Kraus Reg. No. 34,395
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 43,730

HLK/ayh/rjv
Enclosures